Macclesfield Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

SANITARY CONDITIONS

OF THE

Macclesfield Rural District

FOR THE YEAR 1923,

BY

ROBERT PROUDFOOT,

M.D., C.M., Edin., D.P.H. Vict.

Medical Officer of Health.

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MACCLESFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.

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ANNUAL REPORT

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Medical Officer of Health

ROBERT PROUDFOOT,

M.D., C.M., Edin., D.P.H., Vict.

For the Year 1923.

To the Chairman and the Members of the Macclesfield Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Report upon the sanitary conditions of the Rural District of Macclesfield for the year 1923.

(*a*) Particulars regarding the area and circumstances of the year in regard to matters specified are given in an appendix.

(*b*) A special Report was made during the year upon Overcrowding at Poynton, a copy of which was forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Macclesfield Rural District is estimated by the Registrar General for the year 1923 as being 17,170, an increase since the Census of 19th June, 1921, of 127.

Births.—The total number of Births notified by the Registrars during the year was: Males, 122, of whom 5 were illegitimate, Females, 133, of whom 3 were illegitimate, making a total of 255 births within the district. The Registrar General has supplied figures showing Males 133, 5 of whom were illegitimate; Females 142, including 5 illegitimate births; which gives a total of 275—or 20 more than the locally compiled returns. If we take the higher figures the Birth Rate for the year is 16·01 per 1,000—slightly lower than the figures for 1922.

Deaths.—The gross total Deaths registered within the District during 1923 amount to 136, from which have to be deducted 7 deaths of non-residents dying in the District, and to which 26 deaths of residents—notified elsewhere—have to be added: thus giving a total nett number of Deaths of all ages of 155, consisting of 74 Males and 81 Females. The Registrar General's figures show 75 males, but this discrepancy may be explained by the exclusion from my figures of one male aged 61 wrongly assigned to this area.

The Death Rate for the year is 9·02, a decrease of over 3 per 1,000 as compared with the previous year, and mainly accounted for by a considerable reduction in the number of deaths from Influenza and Respiratory Diseases generally.

During the year 18 deaths occurred in children under one year, 9 of these being due to Congenital Debility and Premature Birth. Three deaths of illegitimate infants occurred.

Inquests.—During 1923, 13 Inquests were held in the district, 3 of these being upon non-residents. The verdicts

were as follows :—

1.	Acute Broncho-pneumonia	1
2.	Accidental Drowning	2
3.	Bright's Disease	2
4.	Convulsions...	1
5.	Diphtheria	1
6.	Duodenal Ulcer	1
7.	Fracture of Cervical Vertebrae	1
8.	Heart Disease	3
9.	Syncope	1
		13

Infectious Diseases.—The following cases of Infectious Disease have been notified during the year :—

Diphtheria	12	cases
Scarlet Fever	108	,,
Enteric Fever	2	,,
Puerperal Fever	2	,,
Pneumonia	7	,,
Erysipelas	4	,,
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	,,
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	,,
Chickenpox	11	,,
Tuberculosis	18	,,
Total ...	168	,,

Diphtheria.—There is again a slight decrease in the number of cases notified. The incidence of this disease in the various townships is shown in the following table :—

Township.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Chelford ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	4
Eaton ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
Mottram-St-Andrew ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nether Alderley	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Newton... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Poynton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tytherington	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1
	2	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	1	1	1	3	12

Scarlet Fever.—In common with many of the surrounding districts, Macclesfield Rural District has suffered severely from Scarlet Fever, the vast majority of the Cases occurring in Poynton, as will be seen from the following table :—

Townships.	Jan.	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Adlington ...	2	1	...	1	1	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	12
Butley ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eaton	...	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Great Warford	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
Hurdsfield ...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	4
Lower Withington..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Marton	1	...	...	...	1	..	4	...	...	...	...	...	6
Newton ...	...	...	...	..	1	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	5
North Rode	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Pott Shrigley	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
Poynton ...	...	...	3	13	5	1	5	2	3	6	10	12	60
Prestbury ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	3
Taxal ...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tytherington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Upton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	4	2	4	22	11	6	16	3	4	9	14	13	108

Enteric Fever—One case of Enteric Fever and one of Paratyphoid Fever were notified in 1923, the notification of the former being received on the day the patient died.

Tu'erculosis.—Eighteen cases of this disease were notified 13 being pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary tuberculosis. It will be noticed that there is a discrepancy in the number of deaths compiled by me and those of the Registrar General, 5 as compared with 4. This is due to the fact that a case which was notified a fortnight previously as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, appears in the Death returns as having died from Broncho-pneumonia—no mention being made of the primary cause.

Chickenpox.—During the year Chickenpox was, with the sanction of the Ministry of Health, made a notifiable disease, in view of the prevalence of Smallpox in various areas throughout England Eleven notifications of Chickenpox have been made.

Hospitals subsidized by the Local Authority—The Hospital accommodation available for Infectious Diseases consists of:—

(*a*) Fourteen beds at the Macclesfield Corporation Isolation Hospital for ordinary cases.

(*b*) Two beds in the Hyde Corporation Smallpox Hospital for cases of Smallpox, with further provision if necessary.

Laboratory Work.—Under provision made with the Clinical Research Association 23 specimens were submitted for examination during the year. These comprised 9 specimens of Sputum, in two of which Tubercle Bacilli were demonstrated,

12 throat swabs one of which contained the Bacilli of Diphtheria, and 2 blood specimens both of which were positive for the Paratyphoid B organism.

Sanitary Administration.—A tabular summary of the work of the Sanitary Department is to be found in the Appendix to this report with other details required by the Cheshire County Council.

Public Health Staff.—The staff concerned in the Public Health Administration consists of the Medical Officer of Health, who is a part-time officer; the Engineer and Surveyor who supervises the Council's water undertakings and waterworks, and the Sewers and Sewage Disposal Works; and the Inspector of Nuisances who carries out the duties as defined in the Local Government Board's General Order, December, 1910, and also those of Inspector of Housing, etc.

Housing.—During the year 79 new houses were erected. A summary of the work of house inspection is appended.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT PROUDFOOT,
Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Causes of, and Ages at Death, during the Year 1928.

Causes of Death.	All Ages	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over	Males	Females
All Causes	155	18	1	1	2	3	12	40	78	74	81
Enteric Fever	1	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	1	..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	3	..	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...		...	...	..	..	1	...	1	...
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	5	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	19	...	...	..	...	...	3	7	9	12	7
Diabetes	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	11	4	8
Heart Disease	24	..	...	...	...	...	..	9	15	4	20
Arterio-sclerosis	9	...	...	...	...	...		2	7	5	4
Bronchitis	9	1	...	..	...	...	.	1	7	3	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	8	1	...	...	...	1	2	3	1	5	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	.	...	...	...	...	...	3	..	3	..
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	...
Appendicitis and typhlitis	2	...	...	...	..	1	...	1	..	1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	...	..	...	..	...	..	1	3	3	1
Congenital Debility and malformation, Premature Birth	9	9	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	6	3
Other Deaths from Violence	3	..	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	3	...
Other defined Diseases	36	5	1	...	..	1	2	6	22	15	22
TOTALS	155	18	1	1	2	3	12	40	78	74	81

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN.

Causes of Death in Macclesfield Rural District for 1923.

Causes of Death	Males	Females
All Causes (Civilians only)	75	81
Enteric Fever	—	1
Diphtheria	—	1
Ifluenza	—	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease	12	7
Diabetes	1	—
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	3	9
Heart Disease	4	20
Arterio-Sclerosis	5	4
Bronchitis	3	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	—
Diarrhœa, &c, (under 2 years)	1	—
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3	1
Congenital debility & malformation, premature birth	6	3
Other deaths from violence	3	—
Other defined Diseases	17	21
Special Causes (included above)		
Poliomyelitis	1	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year:		
Total	13	6
Illegitimate	3	—
Total Births	133	142
Legitimate	128	137
Illegitimate	5	5
Population		17,170

APPENDIX.

1. General Statistics.

Area (acres)	79,573
Population (1923)	17,170
*Number of inhabited houses (1921)	3,850
*Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)...	4,000
Rateable Value...	£165,676
Sum represented by a penny rate	£535

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate ...	265	128	137	Birth Rate.....16·01
	Illegitimate...	10	5	5	
Deaths		155	74	81	Death Rate..... 9·02

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth :

from sepsis..... —
,, other causes ... —

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate...54·54 Illegitimate...10·90 Total...65·44

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
,, ,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	1

Disease.	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Diphtheria	12	8	1
Scarlet Fever	108	42	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	2	—	1
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—
Pneumonia	7	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis...	2	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	—	1
Chicken Pox	11	—	—
	150	52	5

Disease	How Treated	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	over 65	Total
Diphtheria	Treated (a) At Home ...	..	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	4
12 cases	(b) In Hospital ...	...	...	1	...	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	8
	Died (a) At Home ...	..	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	1
	(b) In Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Scarlet Fever	Treated (a) At Home ...	..	...	3	3	5	32	11	4	7	...	1	...	66
108 cases	(b) In Hospital ...	...	...	1	1	1	20	9	2	7	1	...	...	42
	Died (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(b) In Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	—
Enteric Fever	Treated (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
2 cases	(b) In Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	Died (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	(b) In Hospital ...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	Treated (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
2 cases	(b) In Hospital ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Died (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(b) In Hospital ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	Treated (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
2 cases	(b) In Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	Died (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	(b) In Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Puerperal Fever	Treated (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
2 cases	Died (a) At Home ...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas	Treated (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	4
4 cases	Died (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Pneumonia	Treated (a) At Home ...	—	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	3	7
7 cases	Died (a) At Home ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Age-Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
10..	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
15...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20.	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
25..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35.	...	4	...	2	...	...	...	...
45.	2	2	...	1	2	...	...	...
55.	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
55 and upwards ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	2	11	2	3	2	2	1	...

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(*a*) Total 79

(*b*) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919 or 1923:

(i) By the Local Authority ... ... None

(ii) By other bodies or persons ... None

I.—Unfit Dwelling-Houses.

Inspection.

1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 792

2. Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 346

3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... None

4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 95

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service or Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 93

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. *Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c Act, 1919.*

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ... 95

2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—

(*a*) by owners	93
(*b*) by Local authority in default of owners	None

3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close None

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 2

2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—

(*a*) by owners	2
(*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners	None

C. *Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1910.*

1. Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders . . . ... None

2. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... None

3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ... None

4. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... None

5. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... None

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DURING 1923.

I.—WATER SUPPLY.

1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1923? If so please append brief note ... ... None
2. Number of Samples analysed during 1923:— Chemically, 18. Bacteriologically, 1.
3. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper supply of water? ... ... None

II.—SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1923 ... ... None
2. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper system of sewers? ... ... None
3. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1923 as to the disposal works? ... ... None
4. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1923? ... ... None

III.—HOUSING.

1. Number of new houses built during 1923?... ... 79
2. Number of dwelling-houses inspected under s. 17 Act af 1909 346
3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation. None
4. Number of representations made to Local Authority .. None
5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority... None

6. Number of houses where defects remedied *without* closing orders being made 110

7. Number of houses where defects remedied *after* closing orders made ... ... None

8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses within limits of rent in s. 14 of Act of 1909 2500

9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1923 95

10. Number of such houses closed after notice ... None

11. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, &c. .. .. None

12. Approximate number of back-to-back houses in district ... ... None

13. Approximate number of cellar dwellings in district None

14. What number of dwelling-houses for the working classes has your Council decided are required under the recent Housing Act? ... Original estimate 150, as amended by Housing Commissioner 136. Houses erected 16. In course of erection 22.

IV.—TOWN PLANNING.

Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward during 1923 for your District or any part thereof? Yes

If so please make brief note of (*a*) Part of district covered by Scheme . Whole of the District

(*b*) Area in acres 79,573 (*c*) Population 17,170

(*d*) How far has the Scheme progressed at date of making this Report? The preparation of Map No. 1 is in progress and nearing completion.

(Signed) ROBERT PROUDFOOT.

15th April, 1924.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

General Order of Local Government Board (Medical Officer of Health and Inspectors of Nuisances) December 13th, 1910.

Tabular Statement of Inspector of Nuisances for the Year ended December 31st, 1923.

A		B		C	
Number and Nature of Inspections made	Number	No. of Notices served		Result of Service of Notices	
		Statutory	Informal	*Notices complied with	Remaining in hand
1 Dwelling Houses (general inspections)	792	2	95	110	41
2 Cellar Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...
3 Back-to-Back Houses	..	...	...	...	...
4 Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c.	50	...	6	6	...
5 Courts, Yards, Passages	92	...	..	...	...
6 Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets	215	2	40	49	17
7 Cesspools	162	...	5	5	...
8 House Drainage	304	...	35	45	14
9 Ditches, Watercourses, &c.	60	...	4	4	3
10 Offensive Accumulations	38	...	15	12	3
11 The Keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91(3)...	17	...	1	1	1
12 Offensive Trades	23	...	1	1	...

13 (*a*) Slaughterhouses (Public)	—	...	...	...	...
,, ,, (Private)	46	...	...	...	...
(*b*) Other Places where Food is produced or sold	100	..	7	7	...
14 Piggeries	72	...	...	...	...
15 (*a*) Dairies		...	...	.	...
(*b*) Cowsheds	296	...	40	17	23
(*c*) Milkshops		...	...	...	...
16 (*a*) Factories	4	...	...	...	...
(*b*) Workshops	43	...	...	...	...
(*c*) Workplaces	41	...	...	...	...
(*d*) Outworkers' Premises	21	...	...	...	...
17 Bakehouses (Overground)...	16	...	1	1	...
,, (Underground)	...	...	...	...	...
18 Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...
19 Houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	...	...
20 Smoke Observations	2	...	1	1	...
21 Canal Boats	15	...	...	..	...
22 Infectious Diseases Inquiries and Revisits ...	219	...	...	...	...
23 Miscellaneous	160	1	16	16	16
24 Roofs, Eaves, Gutters, etc.	286	....	32	35	8
Totals ...	3074	5	299	310	126

(Signed) SAM GARNER.

*Including notices served prior to 1st January, 1923.